

JL/6
10/16

L. KEVIN COLEMAN
111 Chinchuba Gardens Drive
P.O. Box 276
Mandeville, Louisiana 70470

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2015 NOV 12 PM 9:20
RECEIVED

November 7, 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL

Melissa Horn
Louisiana Board of Ethics
P.O. Box 4368
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Re: Request for Waiver of Late fee assessment for the October 24, 2015 Election

Dear Ms. Horn:

As per the notice dated October 23, a copy of which is enclosed, and the instructions contained therein received by me the following week, this is to respectfully request a waiver of the \$240 late fee assessment for the following reasons:

- As this was my first time to run for office, I did not have a password. As you know, your system is set so that the candidate must mail in his/her initial disclosures affidavit by regular mail in order to obtain a password, but the required disclosures thereafter must all be made electronically - which cannot be done without a password. Additionally, in this election there was a very short period of time between the qualification period and the first required electronic filing.

- I mailed in my initial disclosures affidavit and dutifully awaited receipt of my password which I assumed would be by mail just like the affidavit. In the affidavit I listed my accountant, Elizabeth M. Peppo, as an authorized filer in addition to myself. I did this as a "just in case" and did not tell Ms. Peppo since, as I had no contributions to report, I didn't need her to do the initial filings. (In the event I would generate significant contributions I would involve her.) However, the Board forwarded my password to Ms. Peppo and not to me, and while I had no knowledge of this action Ms. Peppo, who was very busy with the October 15 tax filing deadline for her clients, and who likewise was not aware that I had listed her, put it aside until she could get to it. When the deadline had passed and several days later I still had not received anything in the mail as I had expected, I called the Board and discovered what had occurred. I was then given my password over the phone and made the required filing which, as a result of these events, was four days late.

- As noted above, I had no contributions to report and my sole expenditure for that initial reporting period was the \$225.00 qualification fee, which you can verify on my first electronic filing.

Melissa Horn

Louisiana Board of Ethics

Re: **Request for Waiver of Late fee assessment for the October 24, 2015 Election**

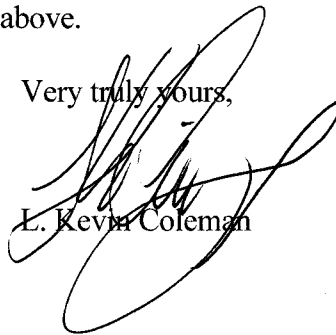
11/07/2015

Page 2 of 2

In light of the above, there was not only no intentional wrongdoing but nothing to disclose since it was well known to anyone concerned that every candidate had to pay a qualification fee. Consequently, I respectfully suggest that a \$240 late filing penalty is unwarranted where there were \$0.00 contributions and no otherwise unknown expenditures to disclose. I therefore respectfully request a waiver of same.

Thank you for your courtesies in the above.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Kevin Coleman", is written over the typed name. The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

L. Kevin Coleman

encl.



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
(225) 219-5600
FAX: (225) 381-7271
1-800-842-6630
www.ethics.state.la.us

October 23, 2015

Laurence Kevin Coleman
P.O. Box 276
Mandeville, LA 70470

CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70150640000624076378

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for the October 24, 2015 Election
30-P Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 4 days late

Dear Laurence Kevin Coleman:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of **\$240** payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. **Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.**

You have 20 days the receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal **the assessment** directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. **Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment.** If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

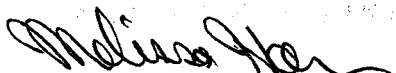
If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not **pay or dispute** the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS


Melissa Horn

STATE OF LOUISIANA LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
acting in its capacity as the
SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

In Re: Laurence Kevin Coleman
October 24, 2015 Election

LATE FEE ASSESSMENT ORDER

WHEREAS, Laurence Kevin Coleman, in his capacity as a candidate for Parish President in the October 24, 2015 election was required to file campaign finance reports pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1484.

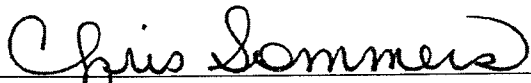
WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.1 provides that it is a violation of the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act to fail to timely file campaign finance reports.

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1495.4B(3), Laurence Kevin Coleman was required to file a 30th Day Prior to Primary Report (30-P) by September 24, 2015. Laurence Kevin Coleman filed the report on September 28, 2015 and was 4 days late.

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 18:1505.4A(2)(a)(ii) provides that an automatic late fee of \$60 per day (not to exceed \$2,000) be assessed against Laurence Kevin Coleman for this late filing.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that a late fee of \$240 is assessed against Laurence Kevin Coleman for failure to timely file his campaign finance disclosure report.

ORDER signed on the 23rd day of October 2015 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.


Chris Sommers - Director, Campaign Finance